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## Congress of the United States

July 16, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Eric H. Holder United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Attorney General Holder:

I strongly support the nationwide deployment of high-speed wired and wireless broadband networks. These digital networks are the critical infrastructure of the 21st century, driving investment, innovation, job creation, global competitiveness and improvements in health care, education, and public safety.

Over the past few years, Verizon has spent billions of dollars to deploy its all fiber FiOS network. In doing so, Verizon has competed directly with cable companies for customers. This competition has helped ensure Americans have access to high quality technology while helping to drive prices lower. Americans, and New Jersey residents in particular, would benefit from additional investments in FiOS deployment.

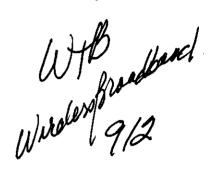
In working to fulfill its original commitment for deployment, Verizon has now connected more than 16.5 million premises to FiOS, which has supported the creation of jobs across the country. Further deployment, as our economy continues to struggle, would support more jobs now when they are needed and extend increased competition to new markets.

As you may know Verizon and our nations leading cable companies have reached a joint commercial agreement. My understanding is that the Commission and the Department are currently reviewing agreements between Verizon Wireless and four of the nation's largest cable companies, Comcast, Time Warner Cable, Cox, and Bright House Networks. These agreements involve complicated transactions that include not only Verizon's purchase of wireless spectrum but also potential joint marketing agreements in which the parties agree to promote, market, and

Committee on Natural Resources Ranking Member, Energy and Minerals Subcommittee

Committee on Education and the Workforce

Founder and Co-Chair, Research & Development Caucus



sell each other's products and services and to form a joint venture to develop, on an exclusive basis, proprietary technologies.

I ask that the Commission and the Department carefully scrutinize these proposed transactions and agreements to ensure that they will not in fact reduce competition and result in higher prices and few choices for consumers.

Sincere

**RUSH HOLT** 

Member of Congress

## JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

July 26, 2012

The Honorable Rush Holt: U.S. House of Representatives 1214 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Holt:

Thank you for your letter expressing concerns about the proposed spectrum transfer and commercial agreements among CellCo Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, Cox Communications, and SpectrumCo, LLC. I value your views and will ensure that your letter is included in the record of this proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

I can assure you that the Commission is undertaking a thorough, rigorous, and fact-based review, consistent with our statutory obligations under the Communications Act.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski